

<u>Missouri Drinking Water State Revolving Fund</u> Readiness to Proceed and Ranking of Application Criteria

Approved by the Safe Drinking Water Commission on September 9, 2004

General Information.

In order to assure best use of the drinking water loan funds in a reasonably expeditious manner, the department will begin recognizing the effort of Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) applicants to complete their proposed project. The department is adding a "Readiness to Proceed" criterion as a part of determining fundable status and listing of DWSRF applications in the next Intended Use Plan. Starting with the DWSRF applications received this year and carry-over projects on the "Contingency List" from last year, a "Readiness to Proceed" criterion will be used to determine which DWSRF projects the department will commit to financing with available State Revolving Fund loans. The "Readiness to Proceed" criterion is defined as any project that has provided at least a complete facility plan and established an acceptable debt instrument. See the attached completeness checklist for drinking water facility plans. See "Ranking of DWSRF Projects" section for details as to how the department proposes to list new and carry-over DWSRF projects in the next intended use plan.

Ranking of DWSRF Projects.

Based on priority points and readiness to proceed, the following describes how the department intends to list the DWSRF projects for the purpose of committing DWSRF loan funds. The department will designate DWSRF projects in the Drinking Water Intended Use Plan (DWIUP) as either "Fundable" or "Planning". Projects designated as "Fundable" are those projects that the department has committed to finance with available State Revolving Fund loans under the DWIUP. The department's commitment to "Fundable" projects is to reserve loan funds in the amount requested until the applicant secures the DWSRF loan or until the application period expires. Projects designated as "Planning" are those projects that have not yet met the definition of readiness to

proceed". The department will not reserve funds for these projects until they meet readiness to proceed". The department will continue to reserve at least 35 percent of the available funds to water systems that serve fewer than 10,000 people. Of the 35 percent, 20 percent is for water systems that serve 3,300 or fewer people and 15 percent is for water systems that serve from 3,300 to 9,999 people.

I. "Fundable Carry-Over" List

All eligible carry-over DWSRF applications approved for the fundable list in the previous fiscal year IUP will retain their same priority points and fundable status. These projects will be placed on a "Fundable Carry-Over" list. The department will give these projects first priority for available funds in the next IUP. The carry-over projects on this list will not have to meet readiness to proceed.

II. Fundable List.

All eligible carry-over applications from last year's "Contingency" list and new DWSRF applications received this year that meet the criterion for readiness to proceed will be placed on the "Fundable" list in order of priority ranking. Carry-over projects will retain the points they received in the last year's IUP unless they reapplied for consideration under the latest criteria. The department will reserve the requested funding for these projects for the remainder of the project application period.

III. Fundable Continency List.

These are eligible projects that meet readiness to proceed but due to priority ranking or timing there is no funding available for funding the projects. Projects will be ranked on the list in accordance with their priority points. If uncommitted funds become available, the department, with the Safe Drinking Water Commissioner's approval, will move the highest-ranking project from this list to the fundable list.

IV. Planning List.

These are the eligible DWSRF applications that do not meet the readiness to proceed criterion to make the fundable list. These projects will be ranked according to their priority points. Any application(s) that meets the readiness to proceed at least five working days prior to the next Safe Drinking Water Commission meeting, will be moved to the fundable or fundable contingency list depending on availability of uncommitted funds and their priority points.

By-Pass Procedures.

The department may by-pass any project on the fundable list that does not make satisfactory progress toward meeting requirements. Procedures for by-passing projects are contained in 10CSR 60-13.020(3)(A).